



**MAYOR'S COMMISSION ON WATER POLICY
REVIEW & MONITORING
MINUTES**

MAYOR'S COMMISSION ON WATER POLICY REVIEW & MONITORING	City Hall, Council Chambers
TUESDAY, AUGUST 16, 2022	201 S. Cortez St.
11:00AM – 12:00PM	Prescott, Arizona 86303
	928-777-1130

Minutes for the Mayor's Commission on Water Policy Review & Monitoring meeting held on
Tuesday, August 16, 2022.

1. Call to Order

Chairman Jim Lamerson called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

Phil Goode	Mayor – Present
James (Jim) Lamerson	Chair – Present
Robert (Bob) Roecker	Vice Chair – Excused
Gary Beverly	Member – Present
Gillian Haley-Meierbachtol	Member – Present
Peter Kroopnick	Member – Present
Michael Taylor	Member – Present
Gary Worob	Member – Present

4. Discussion & Action Items

A. Approval of Minutes from July 19, 2022

**GARY WOROB MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE
JULY 19, 2022 MEETING; GARY BEVERLY 2ND THE MOTION, - PASSED [6-0]**

B. Discussion: Review and Monitoring of the 2022 Water Management Policy

Staff Liaison Leslie Graser provided a brief update for questions received at the previous July meeting. Not all questions had the information gathered, but she shared what had been compiled since that time.

The first question related to the fund balance of the Aquifer Protection Fee, and how it has been spent to date. Per the City's Finance Director Mark Woodfill, the balance as of June 30, 2022 was \$1.9 million. The funds have been expended to support Watson and Willow Lake Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) work, and a City-wide stormwater mapping project.

Another question related to Big Chino Water Ranch, and how much the City still owes. Per Director Woodfill, the remaining balance on the bond is \$7,135,000 as of June 30, 2022.

A question about the E Z Street bulk water distribution location and how much usage there has been, was also received. Ms. Graser shared that the City's Public Works Department Water Operations Division keeps records on the demand at that location, and in 2021, 16.9 acre feet (5,491,816 gallons) were sold.

Chairman Jim Lamerson inquired about regulatory mechanisms that could be used to cap how much water is going out.

Per Ms. Graser, that would be determined by the City of Prescott.

Member Gary Beverly inquired about commercial versus residential use from the E Z Street location.

Per Ms. Graser, this could be an item for discussion at a future meeting if that is the desire of the commission. She continued with stating all of the inquiries are important, however, a compiled list would be the best course of action to provide answers, as well as to keep within the time constraints of today's meeting.

Public Works Director Ashley Couch provided a comment regarding E Z Street. Director Couch explained that customers receiving water service from the City pay a service charge and a usage charge. Customers receiving water from the bulk water distribution location are paying a usage charge only, as they do not have a service account. He continued by explaining that there are options available that utilize a card system, which would have an account to be able to better track water usage.

A question was received related to what happens if a water agreement consumes more water than allocated. Ms. Graser explained that in some of the older contracts there was a surcharge for those who used more than in their contract specified, however, the current water policy and most contracts do not contain that surcharge language.

Ms. Graser offered to compile information for a question related to how much water has been saved to date by the water policy, should that inquiry be on based on Policy 12, Policy 13, and/or Policy 20.

Regarding questions about the Water Resource Management Model (WRMM), it was recommended that an introduction be agendized for the next meeting.

Ms. Graser provided a presentation, focused on commission member responses to three questions proposed at the July 2022 meeting:

1. How will you define what makes this (Water Policy) document effective?
 - a. Determining what is and is not in the document and should be, was discussed first. Ms. Graser displayed the 2000-2050 Water Plan as an example from Tucson, Arizona, and discussed the table of contents which focused on the system, planning process, recommended plan, and future issues and challenges. The Tucson example could be viewed as a user-friendly boiler plate for document options going forward with the City of Prescott Water Policy.

Member Gary Worob commented that Tucson, Arizona, was recently voted the number one desert city in the world. He thanked Ms. Graser for selecting their document as an example to discuss.

- b. Supporting reasonable growth and development, particularly infill development where feasible, was discussed next. Ms. Graser displayed maps of the Prescott Active Management Area (AMA), the Prescott AMA with the City of Prescott water service area, and the Prescott AMA with both the City of Prescott water service area and City of Prescott General Plan area. Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR)'s goals and management strategies to work toward safe-yield were also discussed.

Chairman Lamerson expressed concern with the City of Prescott not having a lot of say on the area outside City limits, on the map displayed of the Prescott AMA.

Member Peter Kroopnick commented on the City of Prescott being connected to the AMA as a whole, in the fact that part of the City's water supply comes from Chino Valley.

2. Which parts of the document do you plan to focus on to review and monitor?

- a. Landscape water use, conservation program performance, and Proposition 400 were discussed. Ms. Graser displayed the City website, and discussed the section regarding approved projects and projects under existing contracts. She also displayed and discussed the permanent recharge section of the Proposition 400 document.
- b. Ms. Graser continued the discussion on member feedback, for multiple policies within the Water Policy document.

Chairman Lamerson commented on a penalty for more water being used than what was originally applied for, and how enforceable is the policy when there is no consequence.

Member Worob commented about situations where homeowners are away for an extended amount of time, such as summer homeowners, and something breaks how would the penalty apply in those situations.

Director Couch explained how a smart water meter program works, with the ability for homeowners to shut off water supply remotely. He added that this is something the Public Works Water Division is researching.

Chairman Lamerson commented about his view on the situation, in that leaks are the responsibility of the homeowner and not that of the City.

Member Beverly explained that enforcement for more water used than what is applied for can be rather complicated, since the original water service application would have been with the developer and the water usage is billed to individual homeowners. He requested data from billing reports with tiered rate structures.

Member Gillian Haley-Meierbachtol inquired about a way to monitor water applied for versus used, once billed to homeowners (in relation to the developer comment by Member Beverly).

Member Beverly commented on the benefits of the Water Resource Management Model (WRMM), in response to Member Haley- Meierbachtol's comment.

Member Michael Taylor agreed, as far as reviewing long term if the water usage from the homeowners lines up with what the developer originally applied for.

Chairman Lamerson agreed with Member Taylor, and commented that one of the focus areas for this commission is to review what has and has not worked in the past and what can be done going forward.

Director Couch explained that tiered billing for water usage has greatly reduced the gallons per capita totals. He added that additional changes to the current rate structure and/or an incentive program update could reduce the totals as well.

3. What do you propose to do to monitor these parts?

- a. Per Ms. Graser, members all have a copy of the presentation, which includes feedback for question number three. In order to respect everyone's time should they have meetings after this commission meeting, she requested members review the material at their convenience.

C. Next Meeting

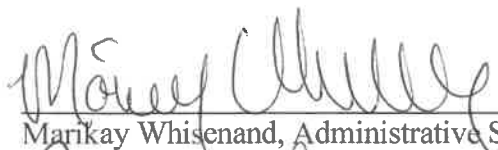
The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, September 20, 2022 at 10:30a.m.

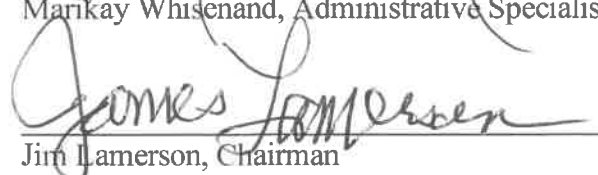
Member Worob expressed his interest in discussing rainwater harvesting, in relation to State regulations, at a future meeting.

Ms. Graser summarized questions one and two at the conclusion of the presentation, and requested that the members of the commission email their responses and comments to staff liaison Marikay Whisenand by September 9, 2022.

5. Adjournment

There being no further items to discuss, Mr. Lamerson adjourned the meeting at 11:59 a.m.


Marikay Whisenand, Administrative Specialist


Jim Lamerson, Chairman

Date: 9/20/22